

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 01503 281338Z

47

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 DRC-01 /094 W
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R 281300Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0121

INFO CINCPAC

USSAG

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 1503

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, TH

SUBJ: COORDINATION WITH MILITARY COMMANDERS

1. I MET WITH PRINCIPAL US MILITARY COMMANDERS IN THAILAND FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, AT USSAG HEADQUARTERS, NAKHON PHANOM. THIS PROVIDED FORUM FOR DISCUSSION OF ALTERED SITUATION AND EVOLVING NEW RELATIONSHIPS FOLLOWING CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT LAST OCTOBER, AS WELL AS OPPORTUNITY TO STRESS IMPORTANCE OF TAKING EVERY POSSIBLE PRECAUTION AGAINST ANY UNNECESSARY AGGRAVATED INCIDENTS, IN AFTERMATH OF CIA LETTER, WHICH WILL INFLAME THAI FEELINGS AGAINST THE US PRESENCE.

2. GENERAL O'KEEFE AS HOST ALSO PROVIDED COMPREHENSIVE BRIEFINGS ON THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA AND SOUTH VIETNAM, WHICH BROUGHT US ALL UP TO DATE ON LATEST INTELLIGENCE AND PROVIDED COMMON MATRIX FOR OUR DISCUSSION REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING OUR PRESENT COMBAT AIR POWER HERE DURING THE 1974 DRY SEASON AND AVOIDING ACTIONS ON OUR PART WHICH MIGHT JEOPARDIZE OUR FUTURE USE OF THAI BASES.

3. I PLAN TO CONTINUE THIS NEW SERIES OF MEETINGS FOCUSED ON POLITICAL-MILITARY PROBLEMS APPROXIMATELY
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 01503 281338Z

ONCE A MONTH, NOT ONLY TO SHARE WITH THE COMMANDERS

OUR POLICY GUIDANCE FROM WASHINGTON AND EMBASSY
ASSESSMENTS OF THE SITUATION IN THAILAND, BUT ALSO TO
ENCOURAGE THE COMMANDERS TO RAISE WITH ME ANY PROBLEMS
THEY MAY HAVE ARISING FROM THEIR OPERATIONS IN THAILAND.
I HOPE IN THIS WAY TO STRENGTHEN OUR COORDINATION AND
ENSURE THAT WE ARE WORKING TOGETHER IN SUPPORT OF THE
PRESIDENT'S POLICIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.
KINTNER

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NNN

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